

Message Text

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ORIGIN EB-07

INFO OCT-01 AF-04 ARA-06 EUR-12 EA-06 ISO-00 GSA-01 INT-05

COME-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-05 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 TRSE-00 CIEP-01 AID-05 /090 R

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NSC-MR. HIGGINS

S/S-O: G. TWOHIE

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R 200325Z DEC 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY KINGSTON

INFO AMEMBASSY ACCRA

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY CONAKRY

AMEMBASSY FREETOWN

AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

AMCONSUL PARAMARIBO

AMEMBASSY PORT AU PRINCE

AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EMIN

SUBJECT: US STOCKPILE DISPOSALS

1. GSA PRESENTLY HOLDS SOME FOUR MILLION TONS (LONG DRY TONS) OF JAMAICA TYPE METALLURGICAL GRADE BAUXITE WHICH HAS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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BEEN DECLARED EXCESS TO STOCKPILE REQUIREMENTS. AUTHORIZA-

TION ALREADY EXISTS FOR DISPOSAL OF 1.37 MILLION TONS OF THIS EXCESS QUANTITY. (GSA ALSO HOLDS OVER FIVE MILLION TONS SURINAM TYPE METALLURGICAL GRADE BAUXITE FOR WHICH NO CONGRESSIONAL DISPOSAL AUTHORITY EXISTS.)

2. US ALUMINUM COMPANIES HAVE SUGGESTED THAT GSA BEGIN TO RELEASE THE 1.37 MILLION TONS FOR WHICH DISPOSAL AUTHORITY EXISTS AND HAVE RECENTLY AGAIN ASKED GSA TO PROCEED. GSA INTENDS COMMENCE NEGOTIATIONS WITH FIRMS FOR SALE OF THIS BAUXITE UNDER CONTRACTS WHICH WOULD PROVIDE FOR DELIVERY OVER SEVERAL YEAR PERIOD. QUANTITY TO BE SOLD IS ONLY ABOUT 9 PERCENT OF 1973 US CONSUMPTION OF BAUXITE AND TRANSACTION WOULD IN EFFECT BE A QUOTE BUY-BACK UNQUOTE BY THE ALUMINUM COMPANIES (WHO ORIGINALLY PROVIDED THE BAUXITE IN QUESTION). IN LIGHT OF FOREGOING, QUESTION OF DISRUPTION OF NORMAL MARKETS WOULD NOT ARISE AND IT IS NOT PROPOSED TO HOLD PRIOR QUOTE CONSULTATIONS UNQUOTE WITH BAUXITE PRODUCING COUNTRIES.

3. DEPARTMENT AND GSA CONCERNED LEST THROUGH POSSIBLE PRESS LEAKS OR OTHER CHANNELS GOJ AND OTHER PRODUCING COUNTRIES MIGHT GET INCORRECT IMPRESSION THIS STOCKPILE DISPOSAL ACTION RELATED TO RECENT PRODUCER COUNTRY ACTIONS CONCERNING BAUXITE OPERATIONS AND PRICE RAISING EFFORTS. TO AVOID SUCH DISTORTED VERSIONS GAINING CURRENCY ADDRESS-EE POSTS MAY IN THEIR DISCRETION APPRISE HOST GOVERNMENTS OF PROPOSED DISPOSAL ACTION AND ASSURE THEM OF ITS ROUTINE NATURE.

4. DEPARTMENT INFORMING JAMAICAN EMBASSY WASHINGTON AND WILL OFFER SIMILAR EXPLANATIONS ANY OTHER INQUIRERS ON LOCAL SCENE.

5. REPORT ANY SIGNIFICANT REACTIONS YOUR APPROACHES. KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Authority: CunninFX
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TAGS: EMIN, US, JM
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